



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SECOND CO-DEFENDANT PLEADS GUILTY TO METH CONSPIRACY**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a second co-defendant pleaded guilty in federal court today to her role in a methamphetamine conspiracy.

**Cortney A. Longie**, 23, of Cleveland, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this afternoon to conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine.

By pleading guilty, **Longie** admitted that she conspired with others to manufacture methamphetamine between Aug. 1, 2001, and Aug. 30, 2002.

Specifically, **Longie** admitted that she occupied a hotel room on Aug. 17, 2001, at the Courtyard Marriot in Kansas City, and that she had in her possession a number of components associated with the manufacture of methamphetamine. The items included 16 blister packs containing pseudoephedrine, a shaker jug containing a liquid containing methamphetamine, coffee filters, iodine and lighter fluid, among other things.

On May 2, 2002, law enforcement officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that she occupied. At that time, Graves said, **Longie** possessed pseudoephedrine pills, coffee filters, acetone, iodine and tubing, all of which were intended for the use in the manufacture of methamphetamine.

A second traffic stop was conducted on Aug. 30, 2002, on a vehicle that **Longie** occupied. During that stop, law enforcement officers found additional components used in the manufacture of methamphetamine, including pseudoephedrine pills, Heet, coffee filters and hydrogen peroxide.

Law enforcement officers recovered enough pseudoephedrine to manufacture in excess of 50 grams of methamphetamine.

**Longie** is the second co-defendant to plead guilty in this methamphetamine conspiracy.

On April 29, 2004, **Raymond “Cory” Herndon**, 33, of Wea, Kan., also pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy, admitting that he, too, conspired with others to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between Aug. 1, 2001, and Aug. 30, 2002.

The co-defendants were originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 17, 2003, in Kansas City.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, both co-defendants could be subject to maximum sentences of up to life in prison without parole, plus fines up to \$4 million. Their sentencing hearings will be scheduled after the completion of presentence investigations by the United States Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine A. Connelly. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)